Plaintiff,) *	*VIA	ZOOM	VIDEOCONFERENCE**
)			
CUTTING EDGE VISION, LLC,)	Case	No.	6:22-CV-00285-ADA
Ţ	WACO DIVI	SION		
FOR THE WES	STERN DIS	TRICT	OF	TEXAS
IN THE UNIT	ED STATES	DIST	CRICT	COURT

v.

TLC TECHNOLOGY GROUP CORP., ET AL.

Defendants.

Thursday, February 2, 2023

) 11:03 A.M.

TRANSCRIPT OF MARKMAN HEARING

BEFORE THE HONORABLE DEREK T. GILLILAND UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

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4 1 Waco, Texas - Thursday, February 2, 2023 (11:03 a.m.) 2 PROCEEDINGS 3 ---000---4 THE COURT: All right. Good morning, everybody. We're 5 here for a Markman hearing. And I'm going to start by asking Ms. Copp to to call the case, please. 6 7 THE CLERK: Yes, Your Honor. 8 Calling Case Number WA: 22-CV-285, styled Cutting Edge 9 Vision, LLC v. TCL Technology Group Corporation, et al., called 10 for a Markman hearing. 11 THE COURT: All right. Can I get announcements 12 starting with the plaintiff? 13 MR. DEACONSON: Yes, Your Honor. 14 Dave Deaconson, local counsel for Cutting Edge Vision, 15 LLC, part of the trial team and you'll be hearing from Justin 16 Lesko will be taking the lead. 17 Steve Lisa and Michelle Lisa are all here on behalf of 18 the plaintiff Cutting Edge, as well as the inventor and principal 19 of the plaintiff, Mr. Konicek. I saw him just -- there he is. 20 Obviously, he will be here as a -- just viewing and will not be 21 actively participating. 22 THE COURT: All right. Very good. Well, good to see 23 you, Mr. Deaconson and team. 24 And for defendant. 25 MR. SIEGMUND: Good morning, Your Honor. Good to see

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you again.

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This is Mark Siegmund on behalf of the TCL defendants. With me this morning is Eric Cohen and Jason Xu with Rimon Law. And Mr. Cohen and Mr. Xu will be the main speakers, and we are ready to proceed.

THE COURT: All right, very good. Well, let me pull my notes up. But I got a note on the terms that the parties wanted to argue. I think the order I had was controller, and then the periods to potentially increase fees are the two fee based terms and then device.

So if we want, why don't we start with controller? I think on all of these we went with the plaintiffs proposal of plain and ordinary meanings. So I say we start with the defendant on them. And we'll begin with controller, if that makes sense.

MR. COHEN: With the Court's permission, I'd like to share my screen. It may take me a minute or so to set this up. Is that okay?

THE COURT: That's perfectly fine.

MR. COHEN: All right. Thank you, Your Honor. All right. I want to start with the <u>Williamson</u> case, because I think that's central to our position here. And I can go up to the part that I want to refer to. And I'm focusing on this because <u>Williamson</u> made a significant change in the law.

And the reason that -- and it changed the law because

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it got rid of the strong presumption that the lack of the word means meant that the Section 112, Paragraph 6 didn't apply. And it said -- and the court said there, the en banc decision says, "That the use of the strong presumption has shifted the balance struck by Congress in passing 112 Paragraph 6, and resulted in a proliferation of functional claiming, untethered to Section 112, Paragraph 6, and free of this stricture as set forth in the statute."

And so in <u>Williamson</u>, which we're going to get into a little bit later, the Court held that the claim term there was a so-called nuanced term, but that's and we're getting <u>Williamson</u> is not restricted to nuanced terms. So I want to get into -- so the reason why I'm focusing so much on <u>Williamson</u> is because <u>Williamson</u>, not only does it apply to this case, but the claim term at issue, as we shall see, is very similar to the claim terms at issue here. What we have here is we have a patent there besides a controller configured to perform certain functions.

Plaintiff says the controller is a microprocessor.

Okay, if the controller is the microprocessor, and the plaintiff says the controller, the microprocessor is connected to a touchpad and it's connected to memory. Okay. That makes it kind of like a small general purpose computer. But that controller or microprocessor can't perform any of the functions, even with the hardware that it's attached to, without being programmed by software.

And the patent specification says that the controller is provided with software, but it doesn't explain what the software is or what it does. And case law, the Federal Circuit case law says under these circumstances, where if you were saying a microprocessor that does these functions A, B, and C, it's not enough. That's not enough. You've got to at least provide an algorithm.

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Milliamson and the claims present here. First of all, let me get the right slide up. So the -- what we're looking at here is Williamson says that Section 112, Paragraph 6 will apply when the word -- when a claim term lacks the word "means" if -- and this is an or -- if the challenger, one, demonstrates the claim term fails to "recite sufficiently definite structure", or else recites "function without reciting sufficient structure for performing that function." Okay.

And <u>Williamson</u> also says you got to look at the whole claim limitation. Okay. And so let's take a look at the limitation in <u>Williamson</u>. And the limitation in <u>Williamson</u> was a distributed learning control module for doing a bunch of things. And the last phrase was, "and for coordinating the operation of the streaming data module." And the court en banc said that the district court found the specification failed to disclose structure corresponding to the coordinating function, and the Federal Circuit agreed.

So now look at the <u>Williamson</u> claim term on the left.

"Distributed learning control module for receiving" blah, blah,
blah, "and for coordinating the operation of the streaming data
module." Okay. Look at the '472 Patent limitation, which is
similar enough to the '761 limitation, I'm only going to discuss
the '472 limitation because the with respect to the controller
limitation, the differences aren't significant.

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So we have controller configured to and then it's configured to do what. "Display on the touch sensitive screen and user selected input that instructs the camera system to confine automatic picture upload to periods without potentially increased cellular network access fees."

Well, can a microprocessor do that without programming?

No, it can't. "Automatically connect to a picture hosting

service during any period in which all the following conditions

are met." Can a microprocessor do that by itself without

programming? No. So what happens if you replace controller if

-- looking on the right over here -- what happens if you replace

controller with a microprocessor?

And notice that in the <u>Williamson</u> claim limitation, it said, "a distributed learning control module for receiving." And here we have instead of for we have configured to, but in the <u>Rain</u> case that we cited, the court -- the Federal Circuit said, well, changing "for" to "configure to" doesn't get you out of Section 112, Paragraph 6. Basically saying, "configure to" and

"for" under the circumstances of that case didn't make a difference. And we submit it doesn't make a difference here.

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And so then if we've changed the form of the word, this from display to displaying, and automatically connect to automatically connecting, you've got -- you've basically got a means -- you've got a form that's pretty darn close to means plus function by just changing the tense of these words.

And so we submit that if you look at these functions, first of all, the functions can't perform without a microprocessor -- by a microprocessor without programming. And there is no disclosure whatsoever in this patent of any algorithm for doing any of this. And so that's why we say that this controller configured to perform all these functions should be interpreted as a means plus function. And that it's indefinite because the specification does not disclose an algorithm.

And it's pretty clear, and we set this forth in our briefs. It's pretty clear that if you have a microprocessor or a computer that does something, and it does something, you know, a specific task, that you got to disclose some software for doing that task. Otherwise, it's going to be indefinite.

So I just want to point to a couple of other things here. Dr. Hughes, their expert, pointed to this structure. And I'm going to see if I can blow this up. So Dr. Hughes pointed to the structure in Figure 3. And he said, look, the camera's connected to a touchpad device, it's connected to storage media,

it's connected to a cellular interface, and the controller is a microprocessor.

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He said somebody — a person of ordinary skill in the art would understand it to be a microprocessor. Well, great.

Looking at that diagram, if you substitute microprocessor for controller, you basically have a little computer, right? I mean, that's what it is. It's a small computer. But it only works if it's got software, and it doesn't disclose again, any software for performing these functions.

And if we look at Dr. Hughes' description of the function -- he doesn't basically -- he avoids completely the issue of what causes the controller to perform these functions. He says, well, it -- the controller is connected to the touch sensitive display, the (indiscernible) memory, the cellular interface and the camera system all work together with the controller to carry out the operations that defendants challenges allegedly function. Okay, sure they do, but it -- they have to have software to do it. Because the microprocessor by itself doesn't do anything. And so that's our point.

Our point is that this claim is very much like the claim that was at issue in <u>Williamson</u>. Judge, we put the rest in our brief. We have a couple -- we recited a couple of other Federal Circuit decisions, explaining <u>Williamson</u> and explaining that -- you know, that <u>Williamson</u> was -- it basically, you have to look at the test in <u>Williamson</u> as an either or test. And here

we have the second part of the test.

2.2

And that is, the claim recites functions, and doesn't provide any structure for performing those functions. And unless Your Honor has any questions about this part of the argument, I think I'd like to reserve time for rebuttal.

THE COURT: Okay. Let me ask you, Mr. Cohen. From of course with the <u>Williamson</u> case we've got a control module. And with most of the cases it appeared that were cited by defendant in their brief, they all got to the means plus function analysis through a term that included a phrase. I think almost all of them referred to a module of some kind or another.

And so I did not see and wanted to know if you could point me to a case that found the phrase controller itself to still invoke means plus function that failed to disclose sufficient structure, or do all the terms have some -- like, control module I understand is close, but it's still not the exact same phrase?

MR. COHEN: Well, I want to answer that question in two ways. One, if the Federal Circuit had decided for a specific patent, that controller as used in a claim term for that patent was means plus function, we would say that under Phillips that would not inform whether the use of controller in this patent is means plus function. Because Phillips says you have to interpret the claims, and we all know this.

You have to interpret the claims based on the claim

language itself, the specification, and the prosecution history. So you can have the same term that could have a meaning in one case for one patent and a different meaning in another case for another patent. And it depends on the claim language and the specification of that particular patent.

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In answer to your question, no, we did not find any case in which controller had been interpreted. I would submit, however, that if you look at the structure of the claim itself, and we have controller configured to perform a bunch of functions. So instead of the word controller, you could have microprocessor configured to perform these functions. You can have module configured to perform these functions. And it really wouldn't change the meaning of the claim term as a whole.

If you look at controller, the only description you have of controller is basically Figure 3. That's a description of controller. Now, we have the argument by the expert that well, the patent incorporates another patent by reference, and so you would know it would be a certain type of microprocessor. But the claim recites, broadly controller.

And so maybe it's that microprocessor, maybe it's a microprocessor. But even if it is, under the second prong of <u>Williamson</u>, even if it uses a word and we know what the word means, if that word, for example, microprocessor, if that alone isn't sufficient structure to perform the claim functions, then it's indefinite. It's Section 112 -- it falls under Section 112,

Paragraph 6.

2.2

If the claim language recites functions and recite

--doesn't recite sufficient structure to perform those functions.

And here, even though it doesn't use a nice word like module, it uses a word microprocessor. That is structure. But under the second part of that test, it's not sufficient structure to perform these claim functions. And that's why we say it falls under Section 112, Paragraph six.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Cohen. I understand. Let me hear from whoever wants to address this for plaintiff.

MR. COHEN: Do you want to hear from -- if you want to hear from the plaintiff, do you want me to -- I should stop sharing my screen. Sorry to interrupt.

THE COURT: Yeah, that'd be great. That'd be great. Thank you, Mr. Cohen. Okay. Thank you.

MR. LESKO: Good morning, Your Honor. Justin Lesko on behalf of the Plaintiff Cutting Edge Vision. I'll wait for the screenshare here.

MR. COHEN: Yeah, just let me figure let me out how to do that. Oh, here we go. Okay.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Lesko, whenever you're ready.

MR. LESKO: One second. Let me just try to share my screen here. Good morning, Your Honor. May it please the Court. Justin Lesko on behalf of Cutting Edge Vision here. There's a

first point. This Court's preliminary constructions are all correct. TCL has the burden to prove by clear and convincing evidence that these terms are indefinite, and it simply does not meet that burden.

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And with respect to controller, TCL is not providing anything today to change this Court's finding -- that should change this Court's finding that the controller is not a means plus function element in these claims.

As a first point, looking at -- listening to the argument just now from Mr. Cohen. It's clear that what TCL is trying to do is confuse the first and the second steps of the means plus function analysis. So there's a lot of talk about algorithms and programming.

And <u>Williamson</u> did not change. And I think Your Honor correctly recognize this, based on your question. <u>Williamson</u> did not change the fact that the first step of the analysis is whether any language even exists in the claim that would put it in the category of means plus function.

And then, if that were the case, there might be some discussion about whether the algorithm or the programming disclosed was appropriate for the functions, but we don't get there because there's nothing in this claim that would turn it into a means plus function claim or a means plus function element.

And we cited a case on that point that's Dyfan v.

Target Corp. And what that case says quite clearly, that's decided after <u>Williamson</u> by the Federal Circuit, and it says quite clearly, that step one and step two of the means plus function analysis are separate issues.

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And here, Mr. Cohen admitted there's no case that says a controller would invoke means plus function. And instead, there's a plethora of cases that Mr. Cohen chose not to address that, in fact, do say repeatedly that a controller is not a means plus function element and should not be interpreted that way because a controller refers to a known class of structures.

All these cases are decided after <u>Williamson</u>. Even as recently as 2022, this Court has said that a controller refers to a broad and varied class of structures. And excuse me, Your Honor, in the relevant POSITA in all these cases is from 1999 through 2017. So in our case here, we're at 2005.

So you know, repeatedly courts, including this Court, have said that controller is a structural element. It does not invoke a means plus function analysis, and that is where the inquiry ends here. If you look at what this patent says about the controller, there's no reason to diverge from this Court's prior holdings and the other courts prior holdings that a controller is a structural element.

If you look at what the specification says, it says directly that the controller is preferably a microprocessor. And a microprocessor is a known structural element. Dr. Hughes

opines on that point, and even Dr. Garlick at deposition admitted that a microprocessor is something structural.

2.2

Again, what counsel and Mr. Cohen is trying to say, and what TCL tried to do in their briefs is say, oh, but we need to talk about, you know, what algorithms are specifically disclosed for this microprocessor. But that's step two of the means plus function analysis.

That has nothing to do with step one; i.e. whether there's any language in the claim that would invoke means plus function analysis in the first place. And because the controller here in the spec is structural, we know that we're not talking about means plus function claim elements here.

other known structures that interact with a controller. There's a touch sensitive display. There's a cellular interface, and it's used to carry out those operations. But again, if the controller is coupled, if you look at '472 Patent, specifically Claim 1 and Claim 5, that says that the controller is coupled to all of these other known structures.

And so that again indicates that it's a structural item that's coupled with other structures. And when you look at Figure 3, you'd reach the same conclusion. Defendant tries to call Figure 3, you know, the controller is a black box. I mean, that's a mischaracterization.

The controller in Figure 3, of course it's in a box,

because it's a block diagram. But what it shows in Figure 3, is that there's various structural devices, hardware devices and structures that are all, you know, connected to this central controller that is itself a structure.

2.2

In addition to what's in the claims, there's a touch sensitive display. There's the cellular interface of the claims. There's gaze trackers that are structures. There's all kinds of structures that are shown as interconnected to this central structure, the controller that communicates with all these other structures. So again, it's all hardware when you look at Figure 3, and a POSITA looking at that immediately knows that.

And then finally, here, there's no -- if you look at the extrinsic evidence, it's clear that in the relevant time period, a controller refers to a known class of structures. There's various technical definitions and other authorities that are cited by Dr. Hughes. There's the same authorities that the courts have relied upon in previous cases showing that it's a structural element and it is not something functional.

With respect to the cases cited, Your Honor is absolutely correct. The cases cited by TCL address totally different terms, modules in each case, or in the case of the Engera v. Cisco case, I think it was logic was the term. And modules and logic are completely different from controller, a known structural device, and a known hardware device. So those cases are simply just not on point here.

And then finally, if you look at <u>Rain</u>, I think TCL in its brief and a little bit less so today, but certainly in its brief tries to sort of mislead the Court with the focus on the words configured to in <u>Rain</u>. And the issue in Rain was absolutely clear.

2.2

The module in <u>Rain</u> was a structure -- I'm sorry, it was a means plus functionality, because it says module, right, not anything like a controller. And the only thing the court said -- what the court said about configured to was plaintiff tried to argue that, despite the fact that the term says module, that, you know, the configured to language might save the module from being something functional. And the court in <u>Rain</u> rejected that argument.

That's not plaintiffs argument here at all. The controller is itself a structure and something that -- it's a structural device that can be configured. And so the claim is not means plus function. And if Your Honor has any questions, I'm happy to take those now.

THE COURT: Yeah. Let me ask you, Mr. Lesko. The one thing that I am somewhat curious about is defendant's argument that without a disclosed algorithm or program, then it's indefinite. Do we even get to -- in your view, do we even get to evaluating whether it discloses an algorithm or program for performing the functions?

Do we even arrived at that step if we decide that

19 controller by itself has sufficient structure, and it's not means 1 2 plus function? I guess I'd say it another way, we only get down 3 to look into see whether there's disclosure of an algorithm or 4 program, if we've decided that it is subject to means plus 5 function. 6 MR. LESKO: That's absolutely right, Your Honor. 7 so we never have to get to that discussion because it's not 8 subject to means plus function. THE COURT: Okay. Okay. All right. Thank you, Mr. 9 Lesko. 10 11 Mr. Cohen, I know you had reserved some time to 12 respond. So I'll let you use that now. 13 Mr. Lesko, if you wouldn't mind. There you go. 14 MR. COHEN: Okay. Give me a second. Wish I was faster 15 at this, but. All right. Can you see my screen? 16 THE COURT: I can. Is that the Williamson case, again, 17 I think? 18 MR. COHEN: Yes, because what I want to focus on here 19 is -- see if I can blow this up and move it over. Okay. Okay. 20 The point -- the last point that Mr. Lesko made I disagree with. 21 "To determine whether Section 112, Paragraph 6 will apply, the 22 challenger must demonstrate either that the claim term fails to 23 recite sufficiently definite structure, or else recites function 24 without reciting sufficient structure for performing that

25

function."

So I disagree with Mr. Lesko, to the extent he says you don't look at the function unless you -- unless if there's a term in the claim that describes structure, you don't have to look at the function. That's not the test. That's not the test in Williamson. The test is an either or test.

2.2

And if you look at this claim term as a whole, which we showed before, it recites these functions, and even if the microprocessor -- even if the controllers and microprocessor and its structure, it doesn't -- it's not sufficient structure for performing the functions in the claim. And that's why Section 112, 6 applies. That's point number one.

Point number two, there was a decision by Judge Sparks from this district. And Judge Sparks said in his decision, this is something that I think we all probably know but he articulated it. "The mere fact a similar or even identical term has been construed one way in a given patent. It does not control construction in a later suit, over in entirely different patent."

And that's why we say that the cases cited by Mr. Lesko and discussed in his argument today are not relevant, because they just simply -- they just simply don't -- and I'm trying to stop sharing. Here we go. They simply aren't relevant because they're construing different patents. And Judge Sparks, you know, recognized this previously.

There's also the dissent in the Phillips case also recognized this in passing, and the dissent in Phillips, I think,

had to do with whether -- they were still debating whether claim construction was an issue of law, or how much -- you know, whether it involved fact finding.

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But I think this is a pretty well-established principle. That you don't look to other cases, you don't look to the construction of a claim term in another case, involving a completely different patent with a different specification. So those are the only two points I would like to make in rebuttal to Mr. Lesko.

THE COURT: Okay. I appreciate it. Appreciate the argument, Mr. Cohen and Mr. Lesko. Well-presented and well done. At this time, I'm going to stay with the Court's preliminary construction, and I hold that in this patent and in this case, that controller does demonstrate or describe a known class of structures with a definite structure to it. And the evidence is not sufficient to overcome the rebuttable presumption that this is not a means plus function term.

And just for the party sake as well, the one case we found in addition to those cited by the parties, is there's one out of the District of Delaware, Seismic Corp. (phonetic). It's at 2021 WL 1259710. A very analogous case, where Judge Burke analyzed a very similar patent with a controller programmed to perform things and came to a similar result.

So in light of the parties arguments and the case law cited, as well as adding to it the Seismic Corp. case out of

Delaware, I'm going to stay with the preliminary construction and find that controller is not subject to means plus function. And we will give it its plain and ordinary meaning.

MR. COHEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

2.2

THE COURT: Let's see. Sorry, flipping back over. So now we've got periods without potential cellular network access fees and periods without potentially increased cellular network access fees. Which are two separate terms, but I think they both involve the same or similar arguments. So and again, with those I believe we went with plaintiffs proposals. So let me hear from defendant first on those.

Would that be you, Mr. Xu?

MR. XU: Yes, Your Honor. So I apologize in advance, because the place I stay lost power, so I moved to a public library. And now it's one for technologies for Zoom. But if you hearing the background noises with the kids, I'm hoping to keep it as limited as possible.

THE COURT: I don't hear any background noise. And I did think it was awful smart of you to pick up a spot where I see nonfiction in the background too. So just sort of a subliminal endorsement. But I understand and that is one of the benefits of Zoom is that we're able to do all of this without travel, which might have been difficult to Waco this week.

So whenever you're ready, Mr. Xu.

MR. XU: Let me share my screen. Can the Court see my

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screen?

2.2

THE COURT: Yes, sir.

MR. XU: Actually, I can't. I'm having an issue. Now. Yes, Your Honor. So I would address the two terms, the two terms that starts with a periods. Since these two terms share similar issues, so we group them together for efficiency purposes.

We would want to focus the arguments on two main issues, and so that we will not be repeating many of the arguments we have already made in our briefs. As an initial matter, we want to address is plaintiff seems to argue that there's -- because the terms here -- because the claims here are apparatus claims not method claims.

So definitely this argument should not apply here. But we submitted that there are case law out there has found both apparatus claims and method claims be indefinite. So the type of claims should not matter in terms of deciding whether a term or claim is indefinite.

And in particular here, we cited on this page 19 of our slides in the complaint, the plaintiff actually alleges that this TCL infringes by making and by using the infringing devices. So if the plaintiff is accusing that TCL using the devices then so the usage of these devices is relevant to this case.

So then the next we want to focus on is our first main argument is that both of these terms are contextual terms, that were based on an individual plans, individual cellular phone

plans on each device. And we cite here, the Federal Circuit opinion in <u>Halliburton</u> saying that a term would be found indefinite, if a skilled artisan "would not know from one well to the other, whether a certain fluid was within the scope of the claim", because other factors would impact the determination.

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We submit that this is exactly the case here. Because from one phone to another, the individual plans on that phone would impact whether that phone is within or is within the scope of the claim, or outside the scope of the claim. And this is not just defendant's argument. We submitted that this is actually an admission from the plaintiff.

On page 20 of the slides we are showing that you can see the top, Dr. Hughes, which is plaintiffs own expert saying that for these -- for Claim 1 of the '761 Patent, "The data from the cellular interface used by the controller has to determine that the upload is allowed based on the selected upload options." And what is the selected upload options? In the context of the Claim 1 of the '761 Patent, that is the period without potentially cellular network access fees.

So then, in plaintiffs own brief, we cited in both briefs, Docket 45 is plaintiffs response construction brief. And Docket 47 or 48 is plaintiffs surreply brief. In both briefs, they said that -- one second -- a monthly fixed plan charge on a provider plan does not depend on information received via their cell phone -- cellular interface.

And then it further says, "Because the fixed monthly plan charges are not determined from the information received via the cellular interface, the claim itself is self-limiting, not fixed monthly plan charges."

2.2

So if you look at what plaintiff is saying, they're saying that look, if a phone has a fixed monthly plan, it's not within the claim scope. But if a phone has a non-fixed monthly plan, it may within the claim scope. So it's plaintiffs own admission, they're saying that from one phone to another, depending on whether the plan on that phone is a fixed monthly plan, that this phone may or may not within the claim scope.

The next slide is the claim for the similar limitations periods without potentially increased cellular network access fees. This is for the '472 Patent. Plaintiffs making the same arguments. So for both patents for this group of terms that starts with the periods, it's plaintiffs own admission, saying that it's contractually based on a cell phone plan on each phone. And based on whether that plan is fixed monthly plan or not, it's within the claim scope, or outside of the claim scope.

So we submit that under the Federal Circuit controlling case law, and based on plaintiffs own admission, and also the arguments we made in the brief, that the term and these two terms are contractual terms, and therefore should be found as indefinite.

And that second argument, in addition to the fact that

the terms are indefinite, because they are contractual, we submit that to both terms use the word potential. In '761 Patent is potential. And in '472 Patent it's potentially. These words are unbounded and fluid. It does not provide any guidance to a person of art that is skilled in the art by reading the intrinsic record what this potential editing might be.

2.2

For example, in the '472 Patent, when we talk -- when a person talks about potential or potentially, that means something might happen in the future, right? It can happen under any conditions, or no conditions at all. It's a thing that will happen to the future that no one knows in advance. So in here, what does the potentially increased mean? What's the boundary of it? Well, so how much increase would that be? How would you measure? What's the triggering event for this potentially increase?

These are all the questions unanswered and cannot be found in the intrinsic record by a person skilled in the art by reading them. Apparently, plaintiff realized this issue. So they supplement their plain and ordinary meaning saying that potentially increased should mean a increase from compared to a normal fees.

But the plaintiffs supplemental definition of this term is also indefinite, because the normal fee, what does -- what's the boundary of the normal fee? It can change from one week to another. It can change from one month to another, or it can

change based on the conditions. And also normal fee is kind of subjective to each person because I might find a fee normal, but another person may find a fee not normal.

2.2

So I submit that the usage or the use of the term potential/potentially in these two terms make -- also make the term indefinite. So I will stop here and answer any questions that Your Honor might have.

THE COURT: I do not have any questions at this point, $\operatorname{Mr.} \operatorname{Xu.}$

MR. XU: Thank you. So I'll stop sharing.

MR. LESKO: So Your Honor, Justin Lesko here again.

I'll be handling this argument as well, on behalf of the

Plaintiff CEV. Let me just get my screen share working. So Your

Honor, I'd like to just respond briefly to the few points raised today by Mr. Xu, rather than sort of repeating what's in our briefs here.

First, Mr. Xu points out that the complaint refers to TCL using the device or make using -- making, using, and selling the accused devices. But that is not relevant. It's not a relevant issue here. We're not -- the point of us discussing end user plans, which is TCL's primary focus, is that the claims don't require in the end some user to actually receive some charge or to carry out some method where the user receives some charge. And there's not any inducement claim that, you know, TCL induces them and causes them to carry out some method that

results in them receiving some charge.

2.2

What the claim is actually referred to is a system.

And we're not we're also not saying that either that, you know,
system claims can't be considered indefinite. That's obviously
a ridiculous proposal that we would not make. What matters,
though, is what the claims say here.

They refer to a camera system that has a certain provided option on it, an upload option. And that the upload option instructs the device to either confine automatic picture upload periods without potential cellular network access fees or periods without potentially increased cellular network access fees.

And a POSITA reading this language immediately knows what types of fees we're referring to. There are certain fees that exist. They're known to have the potential to cause either upload charges or upload charges beyond the usual upload charges. And for example, the example we provided during prosecution in fact, is data roaming.

So the fact of the matter is, when you know what those fees are, and a POSITA knows what those fees are, and the claim recites a system with an option to avoid them. Any manufacturer can immediately know whether the device it's making and selling infringes the claim, or it doesn't. So either the infringer provides the upload option, or it doesn't provide it. And that's the question on infringement here.

2.2

And that's why this whole discussion about end user plans by TCL is simply not relevant. What the claim says is potential or potentially increased network cellular network access fees. And you know, whether each individual user actually faces those charges, or doesn't face those charges, or actually gets charged in the end or not, really just does not matter to this claim.

And I think the second point raised by Mr. Xu here was that somehow what they're trying to argue that our briefing somehow is an admission that that there's contextual issues, but the briefing doesn't say that any devices with a fixed monthly fee in general are somehow exempt from infringing the claims or a device that's purchased by a user and then put on a fixed monthly fee plan is somehow exempt from the claims.

The point of Dr. Hughes' testimony and what CEV argued, and I think what Your Honor understood, is that the fees, those monthly fees that are base fees, whether they exist where they don't exist, how much they are, they just don't matter to the claim, because what the claim focuses on is fees that result from uploads. It focuses on the fact that those are known potential fees that may result from the uploads.

And you know, the element that says it uses data from the cellular interface to make the determination, just provides further clarity to the fact that these particular fees in this claim are upload related fees, and the option described in this

claim -- in these claims is an option to avoid those types of fees.

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So the argument that we've somehow admitted that any device with a fixed plan is exempt is completely wrong. Either an infringer, like I said, provides the system with the disclosed option and the user can use it however they want to use it or not use it, that doesn't matter. Or the infringer doesn't. And that's what the claims say.

I think the last argument here is that -- by TCL, was that potential or potentially raises some uncertainty. But it doesn't. In fact, it makes it absolutely certain that what we're talking about in this case are fees that may result from uploads and the provided example during prosecution was possible roaming fees. And the examiner absolutely understood that provided example.

And we weren't -- nobody here is suggesting that we're deviating from plain and ordinary meaning either. What we're saying is that these terms have a plain and ordinary meaning that's known. It's known to POSITA. It was known to the examiner.

What we explained during prosecution was exactly consistent with what the plain and ordinary meaning of these claims say. What we said during prosecution is that these claims cover certain uploads that a user might face in certain periods such as data roaming. The claims do not cover, you know, timer

based uploads at a certain time that were disclosed in the prior art.

2.2

And in the '472, that was during prosecution of the '761 Patent. And during prosecution of the '472 Patent, CEV actually faced a specific 112 rejection where the examiner asks where's the support for this element. And we explained exactly what the claim language says. That you determine whether you're in one of the periods that can potentially have these increased fees or not, and then you decide -- the device decides whether to make the upload or not if the option is selected.

So the option that's provided gives the user when you turn it on, you have the option to tell the device to then monitor the cellular network status through the cellular interface and decide whether it's an appropriate time to upload or not.

And then, finally, I think the last point raised by Mr. Xu has to do with, you know, the increase. What is the amount of the increase or what is the amount of the base fee. But again, when a POSITA knows what a potentially increased fee is, and that it exists such as data roaming, it doesn't matter if a specific user plan has its base fee as X or Y or Z. It doesn't matter if a specific user plans, you know, the increase could be one cent, the increase could be \$1. None of that matters.

All that would matter is that the system provides the option recited in the claim that gives the -- you know, the user

has the opportunity to turn on this option and avoid these types of fees. Whether maybe some users don't want to use the option. Maybe for some users, it doesn't matter. But the option is there and every system a manufacturer makes can be made with the same option, regardless of whether any end user decides they want to use it or they need to use it or regardless of whether they eventually get charged for these types of uploads.

2.2

With that, Your Honor, I submit this Court should maintain its construction of plain and ordinary meaning of this term. And if Your Honor has any questions, I'd be happy to take those now.

THE COURT: Yeah. I guess the -- really the only thing that I was curious about and you kind of touched on it in one of the slides, but explain to me how you believe this is different from the situation in the Halliburton case cited by defendant where in that case -- and I forgotten the exact phrase, but it had to do with well fluid that was affected by many different factors; bore size, the material in the well, et cetera. And the court found that term to be indefinite. How is what we're dealing with different than what the court dealt with in the Halliburton case?

MR. LESKO: Your Honor, I think was the term in the Halliburton you're referring to, was it high pressure?

THE COURT: It was not. I don't believe it was a high pressure. Let me pull it back up here and see if I can find it.

It may have been the fragile gel. I'm scrolling quickly through it. Let me look at my --

2.2

MR. LESKO: Oh, I think I recall. Fragile gel.

MR. COHEN: Page 19 of defendants slide where it says fragile gel.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Cohen.

MR. LESKO: Thank you. Yes, looking at -- so fragile, the difference here is fragile is subjective. And there's no way any POSITA would know what exactly fragile means. I mean, here, we're talking about potential and we're talking about an increased or potentially increased, you know, objectively, is there any potential at all? You can figure that out. If there's an increase of any amount, that's a yes or no question.

So does the potential exist? That's a yes or no question. What's the amount of the increase? Does it matter? Yes or no. Was there an increase? And furthermore, a POSITA here, it clearly knows about the existence of these fees. And it was understood during prosecution that data roaming is a perfect example where potential exists for there to be an increase. And even, you know, all the experts even agreed on that. When we deposed Mr. Garlick, he said that data roaming has the potential to result in additional fees beyond regular charges.

THE COURT: Okay. I think I understand your position.

If I follow, I'm just going to restate it to make sure I'm

following it correctly. But it's your argument that in the

Halliburton case, dealing with fragile gel, there were just so many things that would factor into it that it was hard to tell when something might infringe and when they wouldn't. Whereas in the present situation that potentially increased is really binary. It either is or it isn't. And it's a straightforward analysis versus the multi-factored analysis that created the indefiniteness in Halliburton.

MR. LESKO: That's right, Your Honor. It's two words that are a yes or no question. Potential is a yes or no question. Increase is a yes or no question. Fragile is subjective and requires all kinds of other factors to figure out whether something is fragile or not.

THE COURT: Okay.

2.2

Mr. Xu, would you like to respond to any of the points raised?

MR. XU: If I can just address briefly. I want to share my screen again.

MR. LESKO: I just stopped. I'm sorry, Jason. There you go.

MR. XU: Is the sharing screen okay?

THE COURT: Yes, sir. I see it just fine.

MR. XU: Thanks, Your Honor. I just want to briefly address two points. One is I understand I heard Mr. Lesko argument that the plaintiff is not accusing that inducement infringement in this case, and therefore, the arguments that the

claims are contextually should not matter.

2.2

But I submit that this is the complaint. As you can see, it actually in the complaint the plaintiff is saying that from inducing or contributing to the infringement of any such claims by others. So plaintiff in this case is actually alleging inducement infringement, which contradicts what plaintiffs or plaintiff counsel just argued that whether a claim -- whether a term is contextual matters -- has any relevance in this case. That's point number one.

And point number two is I want to address Your Honor's question regarding the <u>Halliburton</u> case from the Federal Circuit. We disagree that the distinction that Mr. Lesko has made because the case there, it's not just one <u>Halliburton</u> case. In their follow up cases that cites to the <u>Halliburton</u> case, the determination there is whether there are factors that would impact the scope of the claims, so that the determination on infringement can fall can — can be fall within or outside of the claim scope based on those factors.

And those factors can be multi-factors, as in the Halliburton case, but those factors can also be just like a simple -- no, not simple -- single factors that will also impact infringement determination whether it's within or outside of scope. And so whether the factors that impacts the contextual claims are actually multi-factor or single factor should not matter in terms of the -- to determine whether a claim is

indefinite under the Halliburton Federal Circuit's precedents.

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THE COURT: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Xu. I think on this one, it's the Court's belief that at least, even though there's an element of degree with potentially increased fees, we believe that it's not such a degree that a person of skill in the art could not understand the scope of the term with reasonable certainty. And as such, I do not believe it's indefinite. And we're going to stay with the Court's preliminary construction.

And then I've got the last term left is the device, if I have that right. So who would like to -- and we went with plaintiffs construction on the device and equated it to the camera system. But let's hear from defendant on that.

Will that be you Mr. Xu or Mr. Cohen addressing?

MR. XU: It will still be me, Your Honor. Let me share

my screen again. See whether this one works. Is the share

screen okay?

THE COURT: Yes, sir. I see it. I see it just fine.

MR. XU: Okay. Your Honor, so I will be addressing the last term, the device. I think there are two points that the two parties are actually in agreement. One is that the phrase "the device" lacks antecedent basis, because the word device does not occur before the phrase "the device" occur in the claim. I think the plaintiff admitted that.

And the second point is that we list so the device -the word device is a broader term, it has a broader scope. It

can be as I put it on the slide, it can be any element or components designed for a specific use or purpose. So what we're trying to figure out is whether a person of ordinary skill in the art by reading the claims, by reading the specifications, by reading other intrinsic record, can figure out what the device actually refers to.

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If whether it only refers to the camera system, as what plaintiff is arguing, or as there are multiple options or alternatives so that it's not just limited to only one option, so that's the term is indefinite.

And we want to submit that there are at least two to three options that the device can point -- can be. The first is that it's the controller. On the slide, plaintiff is arguing that whatever this device is, it needs to meet at least two requirements. The first is the device has to "Operating to confine automatic picture upload." And number two of the requirement is that the device has to be instructed to confine automatic picture upload.

But if we look at the claims on the screen, this is screen one of '761 Patent, it's the controller, it's automatically caused an upload of the pictures to the remote picture hosting. And when that happened, it's when the upload is allowed, based on the selected upload options.

And the selected upload options in the '761 Patent,
Claim 1, is the period without potential cellular network access

fees. So in here, controller meet requirement number one from plaintiff. If controller is operating to confine automatic picture upload.

2.2

And number two, if you look at the blue underline here, the controller is to determine that the upload is allowed based on the selected upload options. So here, it tells you that the selected upload options instructs the controller to determine that whether the upload is allowed. If it's allowed, then go upload.

So here, the controller is also being instructed to confine automatic picture upload. So for both of these requirements that proposed by the plaintiff that a device, whatever the device needs to meet, controller meets it. So controller is one of the options that what that device can be.

And the second option, in plaintiffs brief, was that at Docket 45, I think it's the plaintiffs response brief, they said that the specification repeatedly uses and instructed only in connection with the camera system or the camera. So plaintiff is arguing that because remember the requirement plaintiff said the device has to be instructed. So their argument is that look, in the specification when the word instruct or instructed is used its connection with the camera system, or the camera. So either both camera system or the camera can be the device.

But the camera and camera system are two different terms. They are two different devices. We put in here US

7,697,827 Patent. This is the parent patent after two patents in suit. And in here in Claim 1 is that in there it says a system comprising a camera, and also other components. So it makes clear that in the context of the patents in suit, a camera system is a different device from the camera.

2.2

So if it's based on plaintiff's own arguments that both camera and camera system can be the device, and they are two different devices, though the camera can also be one of the options to fit the bill for the device. So now at least have three options, where the device is a controller, which fits perfectly under plaintiffs own requirements, or it can be a camera, or it can be a camera system. But let's take a look at the camera system.

That's the last point and we want to make. The camera system -- a camera system, this phrase only occurs in the preamble of Claim 1 of '761 Patent. And if we replace the device phrase with the camera system, then the antecedent basis of the device only refers to camera system showed up in the preamble.

This then means that it basically forces the preamble to be limited. But that is contradictory to the Federal Circuit case law, because if you look at the claim structure of this Claim 1, a camera system comprising all the necessary components already.

So the phrase camera system in the preamble does not impute or add any other additional features of what the claim has

already got. So that the claims here is a structurally complete invention. So the preamble here, a camera system should not be limited.

Now, but based on plaintiff's argument, if the device is the camera system, it forces the preamble to be limiting, which it can't be. So that creates a contradiction, which means that the -- for the options here, the device should not be the camera system. I will stop here and answer any questions if the Court has.

THE COURT: I do not have any questions at this time, Mr. Xu. Let me hear from plaintiff on this one.

MR. XU: Okay.

2.2

THE COURT: All right, Mr. Lesko. And I'm especially curious about one, the last point Mr. Xu made in that the -- you know, would this require the preamble to be limiting and two, how, as they stated in their brief, do we know that the device is not referring to some other component within that claim aside from the entire apparatus?

MR. LESKO: Okay. Of course, Your Honor. I'm sorry, one second. I'm just having technical difficulties here. So let me address what Your Honor asked first. So what you asked was starting with the preamble issue, so CEV is not at all requesting — this was addressed in our brief, but I'm happy to discuss it again here.

CEV is not at all address -- asking for the Court to

make the preamble itself limiting. It doesn't matter if the preamble is limiting or not here. We don't even need to address that issue. The claim -- what we're saying is that in referencing the device, when you review the intrinsic evidence, it's clear that the referenced device is the camera system that is recited in the preamble.

2.2

And therefore the claim element is of course limiting, because it says that, you know, the camera system is what's instructed to combine automatic picture uploads. But you don't have to take it to the next step where you're debating whether that, you know, the recitation in the preamble is limiting in some way.

The other point is that the '472 Patent claims; Claim 1 and 5 of the '472 Patents specifically already say that the camera system is the device that has been confined, you know, it's instructed to confine automatic picture uploads in certain periods. So clearly, the examiner and the PTO understood that and I believed CEV is entitled to that claims go in here.

TCL never raised any issue with the way that claim is worded for that specific term. So there's no argument that that's indefinite some way or that it matters, or has some -- raises some issue with whether the preamble should be limiting or not. TCL could have raised that argument, but it didn't. And neither did the examiner. The examiner knew exactly what we were talking about and said we were entitled to that claim scope. So

I think that's really just a non-issue and a red herring raised by TCL in this case.

2.2

Turning back to Your Honor's other question is why is it not the controller or something else in the claim? I think -- well, first of all, this Court's well aware that lack of, you know, antecedent basis is in itself fatal. And the other, you know, established law, we all know, is, of course, that the question is whether a claim in light of the intrinsic evidence informs a POSITA with reasonable certainty.

And here, at best, TCL can raise an argument that other devices exist in the claim, or other devices exists in the specification, but there's nothing really in the intrinsic record that would indicate that one of those other devices is the device recited in his claim.

They didn't provide anything on that point. And if you look at both the specification and the prosecution history, it's abundantly clear that what the device in this claim is the camera system consistent with the other claims that will be '472 Patent.

Here on the screen, you can see this is from the '761 Patent specification that 12:64-13:1. This is the direct support for this claim element and CEV cited this support during prosecution. And what it says is in the spec itself, the inventive camera system is preferably operable. So that the automatic connection is made only at certain times of the day or the weekends, et cetera. So as to confine picture transmission

to periods of cheaper network access, et cetera.

2.2

So right there in the spec, if a POSITA was wondering what did you mean by the device? You pull up the spec and the answer is right there. The event of camera system, camera system. And then you look back at the claim. And that's exactly what's in the claim. And in the preamble, there's a camera system there. That really ends the inquiry. There's nothing contradictory in the specification.

And what we cited in addition to that was, you know, the word instructs, again, in the specification, repeatedly refers to a camera or camera system, being instructed. And when you look at TCL tried to, you know, cite some new evidence today to show that there's some conflict between the camera and the camera system.

But that's just not on point at all. What they pulled up was an '827 Patent, Claim 1. That's a completely different invention described in that claim. It has nothing to do with uploads. Nothing to do with automatic uploads, first of all.

Second of all, if you look at what it said, it says in the preamble that there's a system, and then the system to camera. There's no conflict between whether there's a difference between a camera system and a camera, because of that. It just says a system. I mean, the system could be all kinds of components. There could be a server in the system. There could be a computer in the system outside of the -- you know, the --

what the camera is. So a system is a broad term, right? And it can cover all kinds of things.

2.2

And that doesn't mean it doesn't say camera system, or raise any conflict between whether the camera in the spec is different from the camera system in the spec. And I'll reiterate again, that's sort of a secondary argument for CEV. When you look at the main support for this claim on it, it says explicitly that the camera system is the thing that is operable for being confined, consistent with the way the claim is set up in the claim language. So I think that's really all I have to say.

I mean, there's also, of course, there's other evidence in the prosecution history that CEV cited. Specifically there was during prosecution of the '761 Patent, there were claims pending that said a camera system, and CEV said to the examiner, you know, in responding to her objection that the device claimed, has certain features and is supported in certain ways.

And of course, again, that's just consistent with when you read the spec, and you read the history here, they're consistent that the device in this instance is the camera system. And with that, Your Honor, I'll just ask if you have any other further questions for me to answer?

THE COURT: I do not at this time. Well, actually, let me ask you on the -- so with the '761 Patent since it was a continuation in part. And I know we've got the argument that '472 Patent is parallel claims. But you know, it's kind of one

of those where it's got parallel claims that uses the camera system instead of the device.

2.2

How going back to the '761 were they -- the claims in the '761, this Claim 1, was it a new claim to this application when it was filed? Or is it carried forward from a prior application?

MR. LESKO: If you don't mind, Your Honor, I just want to make sure the record is clear. So the 76 -- the '472 Patent is later filed. These are all continuations and not continuations in part of, you know, that original '827 Patent that he put on the screen. So I just want to make sure Your Honor is aware of that so there's no confusion.

And then the claims in the '761 Patent were drafted as new claims during prosecution, and then the '472 Patent, which was a later continuation, those were new claims drafted at that time as well.

about, to kind of word it slightly differently to make sure that I'm trying to make it as clear as I can. But I see a parallel, obviously, between the claim language -- and it's discussed in the brief -- a parallel between the claim language in the '761 and the later filed '472. Are there any parallels to any of the claims in the earlier file, the patents filed before the '761 Patent?

MR. LESKO: There are not parallels -- well, there are

actually. No, the parallel, there's one parallel patent that was pending at the same time as the '761 Patent. That was the '116 Patent. And I think we've cited that file history, and we sort of explained that relationship in our brief.

Those two were pending at the same time in the -- I believe, the -- I'm not -- I don't recall the filing order. But I know that the claims were -- you know, both applications were pending together. And the issue, the '116, though had the same antecedent basis problem. It mistakenly referred to the device.

So you know, there's no other parallel language where the claim referred to the camera system instead of the device except for the '472 Patent, to answer Your Honor's question.

THE COURT: Okay. Okay. Thank you, Mr. Lesko.

Mr. Xu, would you like to respond?

MR. XU: Yes, if I can have a few minutes?

THE COURT: Certainly.

2.2

MR. XU: Okay. I can't get to Zoom. Okay. Thank you, Your Honor. I just want to address a few points that actually relate to Your Honor's question, and also opposing counsel's response. Your Honor asked what plaintiff's response to the preamble or arguments that TCL made. And I submit that this is the only paragraph in the surreply brief that the plaintiff tried to address the preamble.

And actually it did not even address because all it says is that never made that argument for the '472. And as the

Court understand, the '472 and '761 Patent are two different patents. And the preamble issue is in this for the Claim 1 of the '761 Patent is because of the lack of antecedent basis of the phrase "the device" for '761 Patent. But the device was not -- that phrase was not used in the '472 Patent, and therefore, there's no antecedent basis to trigger any preamble issues for the '472 Patent.

2.2

So these two patents are situated differently, and because of what -- because of the different claim languages after two different patents, and so the -- and the lack of antecedent basis of the word -- of the phrase "the device" that triggers the preamble conflict for Claim 1 of the '761 Patent.

And plaintiff does not have a response to that because they can't. And a preamble in one of the '761 Patent is not limiting. But if we have to take plaintiffs position that the device is the camera, then it forces the preamble of Claim 1, '761 to be limited, which is not the case here. That's point number one.

And the second point I want to make clear is that plaintiff never addressed TCL's argument that controller can be the device, as we have argued in our briefs and also made into today's oral argument that for all the requirements that plaintiff has argued that the device has to meet, controller meets it -- meets all those requirements.

And in plaintiffs response briefs and surreply briefs,

they totally ignored -- try to rebut this argument that controller can be the device here. And they -- all plaintiffs argue is that the camera system should be the device. But in here, there are other perfectly situated alternatives and options that can also be the device. And that's why because of the lack of antecedent basis, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be able to determine what the device is in Claim 1 of the '761 Patent.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Xu. Let me go off the record just briefly.

MR. XU: Thank you.

(Off the record)

2.2

THE COURT: Okay. We're back on the record. And while I think this one is a very close call, I do think that there's enough in the patent that a person of skill in the art would understand what the device is referencing. And while it's not used much in the spec, at least, it appears to me that two times that the phrase the device is used in the specification, it's referring to the system as a whole.

And so with that, we're going to find that the device is used in Claim 1 -- and what was it, Claim 1 and 5 or 17 of the '761 Patent refers to the camera system and is not indefinite. And so I think that takes care of everything that we needed to address this morning, but let me start with Mr. Xu.

You're in the center of my screen or Mr. Siegmund,

49 you're right there beside him. So is there anything else we need 1 2 to take up for defendant today? 3 MR. SIEGMUND: Nothing further from defendant, Your 4 Honor. Thank you very much for your time. 5 THE COURT: Okay. Anything else for plaintiff, Mr. 6 Lesko or Deaconson? 7 MR. DEACONSON: No, Your Honor. Thank you very much. THE COURT: All right. Thank you all very much and we 8 9 will be adjourned. 10 MR. LESKO: Thank you, Judge. Have a good one. 11 (Proceedings adjourned at 12:32 p.m.) ---000---12 13 14 15 CERTIFICATE 16 I, DIPTI PATEL, court approved transcriber, certify that the 17 foregoing is a correct transcript from the official electronic 18 sound recording of the proceedings in the above-entitled matter. 19 20 Dipti Patel 21 22 23 DIPTI PATEL, CET-997 24 LIBERTY TRANSCRIPTS Date: February 27, 2023 25